

HIERARCHICAL CLIENT DETECTION IN A WIRELESS PORTAL SERVER

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A wireless portal system having a wireless portal server with a
5 hierarchical client detection mechanism. The hierarchical client detection
mechanism includes logic for identifying client wireless devices connecting to
the wireless portal server by using a hierarchical search path of predefined
client profile information stored in the wireless portal server. In searching
for client profile information, the client detection logic first looks for an exact
10 match for a connecting device and if that fails, attempts to find an
approximate match of the predefined profile information for the connecting
device. A failure in finding either an exact or approximate match results in
the client detection logic looking for a match within the profile information
of a class of devices similar to the connecting client wireless device. In one
15 embodiment of the invention, the client detection mechanism is capable of
being extended by the client to add-on client information characteristics
which are not already pre-stored in the wireless server. In this way, the client
detection logic of the invention is extensible to recognize new devices
without requiring software version updates or complex programming tasks.